

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Restriction Requirement of April 6, 2004, applicants elect, with traverse, Group I and claims 58-68, 78-89, 95-104, and 116.

Applicants note that the above-noted indication of the claims differs from the indication in the outstanding Restriction Response as applicants submit that claim 95 should be included with the elected invention of Group I. Applicants submit that claim 95 should properly be included in Group I as claim 95 is also directed to a data classification method, which is noted as directed to Group I.

Applicants also submit herein an amendment canceling claim 58 as suggested in the Office Action.

Applicants also traverse the outstanding Restriction Requirement on the grounds that it has not been established that it would be an undue burden to examine each of the noted inventions and claims together.

Under M.P.E.P. § 803, a restriction is not proper if a search and examination can be made without a serious burden on the Examiner, and the outstanding Restriction Requirement has not established that examining each of the currently-pending claims together would result in an undue burden.

M.P.E.P. § 803 specifically states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

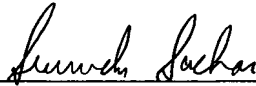
The outstanding Restriction Requirement has not established that each of the claims could be examined without an undue burden, and thus each of the noted inventions and claims should be examined on the merits.

Applicants believe that the present response is in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits, and an early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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